

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU

WASHINGTON, D. C.      August 10, 1911.

**CIRCULAR TO SHIPMASTERS.**

Professor A. Angot, Director of the Central Meteorological Bureau of France, has informed the Weather Bureau that, beginning on July 15, 1911, wireless messages, containing the 7 a. m. observations for Reykjavik, Iceland; Valentia, Ireland; Ouessant, France; La Coruna, Spain; and Horta, Azores; and the 8 p. m. observation of the previous day for Saint Pierre-Miquelon Islands, America, will be sent broadcast from the Eiffel Tower daily, immediately after the 11 a. m. time signal (Greenwich mean time), for the benefit of vessels on the Atlantic. The messages will give the atmospheric pressure, the direction and force of the wind, and the state of the ocean.

The stations will be designated by their initials: viz.—R, V, O, C, H, S.

The message will begin with the letters B C M, "Bureau Central Meteorologique," and will be followed by the six reports. The first two figures represent the pressure in millimeters, the hundreds (700) being understood; the next two, the wind direction for 32 points (02=NNE, 16=S, etc.); the fifth, the force of the wind; the sixth, the state of the sea. This last will be omitted for Reykjavik and Saint Pierre-Miquelon. Observations missing will be replaced by an equivalent number of figures 9. The last of the message will be in ordinary language.

Beaufort scale of wind force.			Scale of sea condition.
Number and designation.	Miles per hour. (1874)	Miles per hour. (1909)	
0—Calm.....	8	0	0—Dead calm.
1—Light air.....	8	1 to 8	1—Very smooth.
2—Light breeze.....	13	4 to 7	2—Smooth.
3—Gentle breeze.....	18	8 to 12	3—Slight.
4—Moderate breeze.....	23	13 to 18	4—Moderate.
5—Fresh breeze.....	28	19 to 24	5—Rather rough.
6—Strong breeze.....	34	25 to 31	6—Rough.
7—Moderate gale.....	40	32 to 38	7—High.
8—Fresh gale.....	48	39 to 46	8—Very high.
9—Strong gale.....	56	47 to 54	9—Tremendous.
10—Whole gale.....	65	55 to 68	
11—Storm.....	75	64 to 75	
12—Hurricane.....	90	Above 75	

EXAMPLE OF MESSAGE.

B C M R48167 V742013 O753211 C680411 H739901 S62162. Anticyclone Europe central beau temps general depression ouest Islande allant vers Est.

INTERPRETATION OF MESSAGE.

Bureau Central Meteorologique.—

Station.	Pressure.	Wind.		Sea.
		Direction.	Force.	
Reykjavik.....	748	S.	7	
Valentia.....	774	SW.	1	Slight.
Ouessant.....	775	N.	1	Very smooth.
La Coruna.....	768	NE.	1	Very smooth.
Horta.....	778	Calm.	0	Very smooth.
St. Pierre-Miquelon Island.....	762	S.	2	

Anticyclone central over Europe. Fine weather. General depression west of Iceland moving toward the east.

*Willis L. Moore*

Chief U. S. Weather Bureau.